

**Virginia State Board of Education
Literacy Committee
September 26, 2006
4 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Jefferson Meeting Room, 22nd Floor
Richmond, Virginia**

Board Members Present: Mrs. Isis Castro, Chair; Dr. Mark E. Emblidge; Dr. Thomas M. Brewster; Mr. David L. Johnson; Mrs. Eleanor B. Saslaw; Dr. Billy K. Cannaday, Jr.

Purpose of Subcommittee: To focus on increasing literacy among Virginia's schoolchildren and strengthening literacy programs for adult learners.

Summary of Subcommittee Meeting:

1. Welcome from Mrs. Castro, Chair
2. Remarks from Dr. Emblidge
3. Presentation of the Proposed English Language Proficiency Standards of Learning included the following:
 - a. An overview of the proposed draft of the English Language Proficiency Standards of Learning.
 - b. The background and process of revising the English Language Proficiency Standards of Learning.
 - c. The proposed changes to the English Language Proficiency Standards of Learning.
4. Presentation of the Limited English Proficient (LEP) research study for Senate Bill 683 included the following:
 - a. An overview of the LEP research study.
 - b. The background and process of conducting the study.
 - c. An update on the proposed timeline for submission to the Board of Education.

5. Update on the United States Department of Education LEP Partnership Meeting. Included were the following:
 - a. The partnership is intended to support states' efforts to improve English Language Proficiency (ELP) assessments for LEP students.
 - b. The Department was one of 20 states invited to participate.
 - c. The meeting addressed the need for more research in the areas of developing appropriate assessments, instruction, and accommodations.
 - d. A follow-up meeting will be held on October 28-29, 2006.
6. The following suggestions were made for future meeting topics:
 - a. A review of the data and research related to literacy in K-12 and adult education programs.
 - b. An analysis and discussion of effective programs around the state for improving literacy for all students.
 - c. A focus on ensuring that all students in the Commonwealth are reading on grade-level by 3rd grade.
7. The next meeting of the committee will be held on October 24, 2006.